EXECUTIVE ORDER 2005- 11

WHEREAS, I, John Hoeven, Governor of the State of North Dakota, by the authority vested in me, have declared that a snow disaster exists in North Dakota based on the October 4-6, 2005, record-breaking severe winter storm/snowfall with heavy snow, rain and high winds that moved through North Dakota and disrupted power supplies and stranded hundreds of motorists creating emergency conditions; and

WHEREAS, reports of 18 to 20 inches of snow on the ground in certain areas of the state created dangerous hazards for stranded motorists; and

WHEREAS, power outages were reported in several counties and tribal nations as a result of extensive damage to infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, I directed the N.D. Division of Homeland Security of the Department of Emergency Services to request a joint federal, state, tribal and local survey of the damaged areas. The Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) took place October 19-26.

WHEREAS, the PDA indicated that the most severe impacts were to transportation infrastructure and Rural Electric Cooperatives (RECs). Losses include RECs, as well as expenses for protective measures and debris clearance.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that appropriate state agencies and administrators maintain snow emergency response initiatives pursuant to the State Emergency Operations Plan.

This order is issued upon the following basis and for the following reasons:
1. The governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution; and
2. The governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code to minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency; and
3. A coordinated and effective effort of appropriate government departments is required to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters in this state.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 31st day of October 2005.

/s/
John Hoeven, Governor

Attest:
/s/
Alvin A. Jaeger, Secretary of State